

# A NEW HELICONIA (MUSACEAE) FROM SURINAME

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In the course of next year a revision of the surinam Musaceae will be published. A new *Heliconia* species recognized during this study, is described here.

*Heliconia nickeriensis* Maas & de Rooij spec. nov. *Fig. 1 and 2.*

Herba gracilis, 1–3(–4) m alta. Petiolus 22–60 cm longus. Lamina anguste ovata, 40–82 cm longa, 9–16 cm lata, basi (oblique) acuta, apice acuta ad leviter acuminata. Inflorescentia erecta, 10–20 cm longa, pedunculo viride, 35–40 cm longa, glabro. Rhachis leviter ad valde flexuosa, 0.2–0.3 cm crassa, glabra. Bracteae 3–7, rubrae, intus luteae, aurantiacae vel aurantiaco-rubrae, apice luteae, distichae, obtusae, anguste cymbiformes, glabrae. Bracteae basales 8.5–14 cm longae, (1.3–)1.5–2.3 cm latae, secundae 6.5–10 cm longae, 1.3–2.2 cm latae, tertiae 5–8.5 cm longae, 0.8–1.5 cm latae. Internodium basale 3–5 cm longum, secundum 2.7–3.5 cm longum. Bracteolae luteae, hyalinae, anguste triangulares, 4–4.2 cm longae, glabrae. Flores aurantiaci ad luteo-aurantiaci, leviter curvati, 4–5.5 cm longi, glabri, sepalo libero valde recurvato. Staminiodium anguste obovatum, apiculatum, 0.8 cm longum, 0.3 cm latum. Ovarium luteum. Pedicelli luteo-albi, ad 1 cm longi, in stato fructifero ad 2 cm longi. Fructus ca 1 cm longus.

TYPE. P. J. M. & H. Maas & P. Teunissen 2366 (holotype, U; isotypes, BBS, CAY, F, GB, K, MO, NY, P, RB, VEN, Z), along ditch, 15 km N of Wageningen, distr. Nickerie, Suriname.

DISTRIBUTION. Guyana and Suriname; all collected on clayey soils along ditches.

GUYANA. Mulson Creek, Berbice, Grewal 268, 271 (U, UG); Edenburg, Berbice, Grewal 274 (U, UG); Ithaca, Berbice, Grewal 279 (U, UG); Richmond, 3.5 miles Line 28, W Coast, Essequibo, Harris, TP 152 (K); Anna Regina, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> miles, W Coast, Essequibo, Harris, TP 515 (K).

SURINAME. Nanni Creek, distr. Nickerie, Hekking 965 (BBS, K, NY, U); 15 km N of Wageningen, distr. Nickerie, P. J. M. & H. Maas & P. Teunissen 2366 (see type); 'Lekbeteugelingsdam', distr. Nickerie, Teunissen- LBB 14484 (BBS).

The closest relative is *H. acuminata*, but *H. nickeriensis* can be readily recognized by its obtuse, wider, orange (instead of red) bracts and by its orange flowers.



Fig. 2. Habitat of *Heliconia nickeriensis*, ditch side, 15 km N of Wageningen, distr. Nickerie, Suriname.



Fig. 1. Inflorescence of *Heliconia nickeriensis* (Maas et al. 2366).